



STAFF PHOTOS BY GUY WARREN

Shake a hand: Lardee the Clown personally greets residents during a visit to St. Anne's Mead Retirement Home.

Clowns from page 1C

Ironically, each picked out the other's clown outfit. All the clothes are second-hand, found in friend's basements or second-hand stores. "The personalities almost developed themselves. They just kind of grew. I talk about Lardee as if she's another person," said Stoll.

Rochester resident Peggy Biges, also known as the Little Bidge, handles the props — hats, scarves, boas and sound instruments. Florall and Lardee put on different costumes for every song, changing quickly while the audience watches.

In addition to pianist Thudd, there's also Harrietta, actually West Bloomfield resident and retired music teacher Harriet Gaden; Chickadee, or Anna Belle Thomas of Bingham Farms; and Jole de Vivre, the one-man band from Beverly Hills — Betty Hixon. "And we've never had a cross word among us. We rely on each other all the time," said Stoll.

The clown act is obviously humorous and offers toe-tapping sing-alongs of "forbidden Broad-



Applause, applause: Katharine Netzer enjoys the show.

way," and punchy dance routines for adults and children. Stoll and Basso are quick to point out that the comedic takeoffs of today's culture with old show tunes as the backdrop is strictly old-fashioned family fun. A refreshing approach to comedy that other performers have made lewder and cruder over the years, the duo was told by a school principal after completing one of their wholesome routines.

Room for mistakes
The Women's Survival Center in Pontiac.

Area group welcomes prospective members

Women of Bloomfield will hold a coffee for prospective members at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22, at the home of Carol Hanzl.

Reservations may be made by calling Eleanor Williams at 540-0618 by Friday, Sept. 10.

Women of Bloomfield is a community-based social organization open to area women. It offers a wide range of social activities such as bridge groups, cultural outings, and golf and tennis leagues. In addition, Women of Bloomfield promotes various opportunities for community service.

Since 1984, Women of Bloomfield has donated more than \$50,000 to Clinton Valley Center in Pontiac. The group has taken a special interest in providing psychiatric patients at Clinton Valley with a complete activities center. Contributions have paid for a kiln, silk screen, VCR, large-screen TV set, and the establishment of an exercise trail.

The money has been raised primarily through an annual art fair. This year's art fair netted \$5,300, which will be donated to the center. An additional \$1,800 was raised at a cocktail musical for

Support group is for children

Friends Like Me, a support group for well children ages 6-16, who have a parent, sibling or significant other with cancer, will meet 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 21 and 28 and Oct. 5 and 12, at the Michigan Cancer Foundation's Jean & Samuel Frankel Community Services Center, 18831 W. 12 Mile Road, Lathrup Village.

Registration is required, and parents are encouraged to accompany children to meetings. For more information, contact Sharon Cure, director of Patient and Family Services, at 883-0715, Ext. 770.

Friends Like Me is sponsored by the Michigan Cancer Foundation, Children's Hospital of Michigan and Wayne State University.

Dolls from page 1C

"They called her the doll lady," said Sheridan, who is asking others to join the cause and help send the dolls to refugee children in Bosnia.

Hudson's Northland, in a cooperative effort with Sheridan, is selling the small dolls to her at a discount price. Susan Keely, public affairs director for Hudson's, said store management agreed to help in the effort because, "It was an opportunity to share something that would be helpful to the children."

Sheridan wants to send 4,000 of the dolls to Bosnia. She already has enough donations from family and friends to send 500. But more contributions are needed.

McCue, in a telephone interview from Wisconsin last week, explained how well the toys were received by the refugee children, "The girls would just shriek and say, 'For me? For me?'"

McCue, 58, was one of eight nurses and nine doctors in the United States who were chosen to go to Bosnia as an organized medical team to bring much-needed supplies, such as dialysis machines, surgical tools, anesthetic packs and insulin syringes. However, the trip to Bosnia about a year and a half ago didn't stop there. She kept returning.

"Everytime I come back (from Bosnia) I think I have to go back there," McCue said. "I had five weeks of vacation this year and I've used all of it up. I've been on cruises and other trips, but this has been the most rewarding vacation I've



Doll Lady visits: A Muslim child in Mostar is one of many refugee children given a small doll, a token of friendship distributed by cousin of Troy resident Kathleen Sheridan.

ever taken."

In Split, Croatia, a town on the Adriatic that had been a tourist attraction similar to the Riviera, hotels along the strip have been opened up to refugees. UNICEF is sponsoring the refugees' stay and handing out food to the needy.

McCue stayed in one of these hotels and described how the children play games with string, tying it from doorknob to doorknob.

dolls there and the gesture was greatly appreciated by the children as well as the parents, she said.

"There is so much joy in doing this and uplifting the children's spirits," she said.

McCue will be returning to Bosnia in October and January.

Checks and money orders to help Sheridan buy the dolls may be sent to Donations for Bosnia Foundation, P.O. Box 302, Birmingham 48012.

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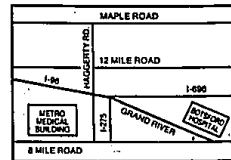
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All are welcome!

Reservations are recommended but not required. Made possible with an endowment from Flexible Plan Investments, Ltd.